

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for triggering data-path conversion utilizing PCM bit robbing signalling. The method and apparatus permits the pass-through of compressed voice packets over a PCM stream between dissimilar interconnected networks or dissimilar payload specifications in the interconnected networks, and also provides the capability to convert the packets to a different payload specification between the networks. Once a voice path is established between the two networks, the incoming PCM data stream is monitored for a voice synchronization pattern which appears periodically in a predetermined bit position in the PCM samples. Upon detection of a matching voice synchronization pattern, a pass-through mode for the voice data between the networks is initiated. A data or payload conversion operation may also be initiated on detection of the matching voice synchronization pattern.

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